

March 3.

FISH RECEIPTS FOR FEBRUARY.

Slightly in Excess of Same Month Last Year.

The receipts of fish at this port for the month of February, is but slightly in excess of that landed in February of 1903 and a little behind the February receipts of 1907, indeed for all practical purposes the catch of fish landed here in that month for the three years above mentioned can be called just about the same.

As comparing the catch of the various kinds of fish for February of this year with that month of 1903, salt cod showed a slight falling off, while fresh cod came out a little ahead. Haddock is about one good off shore trip to the good and hake the same. Cusk is in little better receipts, while the pollock catch almost doubled. Halibut, in spite of being in quite liberal receipt, fell 85,000 pounds behind last year. No salt or frozen herring were landed in February of either year, and the cured fish landings are 1100 quintals behind.

The first two months of the year thus far show a gratifying increase in the total catch of ground fish over last year's similar month of nearly 700,000 pounds and but 8700 pounds short of the showing of January and February of 1907.

The following comparative table gives the catches in detail:

	1909	1908	1907
	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.
Salt cod	79,900	95,600	114,800
Fresh cod	150,400	120,900	216,500
Haddock	580,500	511,200	547,000
Hake	20,100	22,100	5,980
Cusk	55,800	22,100	95,800
Pollock	20,500	9,700	7,600
Halibut	247,000	331,800	372,700
Flitches	510	2,010	

Totals	1,154,710	1,142,810	1,360,580
Salt herring ..			3,500
Frozen herring			800

	Qtls.	Qtls.
Cured fish	1,600	2,700

January 1 to March 1.

	1909	1908	1907
	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.
Ground fish	2,364,195	1,673,910	2,541,925

The Herring Fleet.

Sch. Veda M. McKown arrived at New York, from here Sunday with her cargo of frozen herring and sch. Essex arrived there Monday. Both vessels are now open and trade is reported fair.

Sch. Lena and Maud, which finished up discharging her frozen herring at New York last week, arrived here yesterday morning with a cargo of coal.

Sch. Avalon, which discharged her cargo of frozen herring at Philadelphia arrived here yesterday morning with a cargo of coal.

Sch. Saladin has completed the discharge of her cargo of frozen herring at New York and is bound home with a cargo of coal. The schooner will be in the southern seining fleet this season under command of Capt. John A. McKinnon.

Fitted With Power.

Sloop Vesta of Provincetown, which has been on Parkhurst's railways has been fitted with a 28 horse power Regal engine, which is said to be the first of its kind installed in a fishing craft. The Vesta enjoys the distinction of having her name in the largest and most prominent letters of any fishing craft hereabouts. The letters are a foot square and take up the whole stern.

Iron Chink For Codfish Completed.

E. A. Smith, of the Pacific coast, the inventor of the "Iron Chink," which has revolutionized methods of operation in the salmon canneries on the Pacific coast, announced during the past year that he was at work on a machine to clean and remove the backbone from codfish. The machine has been proven successful at the factory, and now that the company are in their new plant other experiments and trials will be made.

March 3.

Has Been Painted White.

Sch. John R. Bradley, one of the Gorton-Pew Fisheries Co. fleet, now fitting for salt banking, has been painted a lead white tint and now is the only vessel of the local fleet not dressed in a dark, sombre hue.

Trying New Kind of Salt.

The Robinson Fisheries Company, of Anacortes, used a new kind of salt in putting up their codfish last year. Previously they had used what is known as San Francisco Bay salt, which is a good clean white salt of great purity. Last year, however, they made experiments to determine the quality of Carmine Island salt, which is found in Mexico. Mr. Robinson, of this firm, reports that he found the experiments very satisfactory.

Boston Fish Merchant Dead.

Obadiah Rich, who for many years has been employed by the fish commission house of E. T. Russell at 63 Long wharf, Boston, was stricken suddenly yesterday afternoon while at work and died before medical aid could be summoned.

Mr. Rich lived at 59 Bellingham street, Chelsea, and was somewhat of a figure along the water front, having many friends and acquaintances.

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Today's Receipts.

Sch. Flora J. Sears, shore.
Sch. Edith Silveira, shore.
Sch. Rita A. Viator, shore.
Sch. Maud F. Silva, shore.
Sch. Mary E. Cooney, shore.
Sch. Viking, shore.
Sch. Matiana, shore.
Sch. Mertis H. Perry, shore.
Sch. Ida S. Brooks.
Sch. Emily Cooney, shore.
Sch. Emily Sears, shore.
Sch. Esther Gray, shore.
Sch. Motor, shore.
Sch. Mettacommet, shore.
Sch. Manomet, shore.
Sch. Frances P. Mesquita, shore.

Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Boyd and Leeds, Georges.

Today's Fish Market.

Salt Georges cod, large, \$3.50; mediums, \$3.00.

Bank halibut, 11 cts. per lb. for white and 9 cts. for gray.

Salt pollock, \$1; salt haddock, \$1; salt hake, \$1.

Splitting prices for fresh fish, Western cod, large \$1.65; medimus, \$1.37-1-2; Eastern cod, large \$1.65; medimus, \$1.37-1-2; cusk, \$1.60 for large, \$1 for medium and 50 cts. for snappers; haddock, 60 cts.; hake, 60 cts.; pollock, 60 cts.

Trawl bank cod, large, \$3.25; medimus, \$2.75; snappers, \$1.50.

Salt cusk, large, \$2.50; mediums, \$2; snappers, \$1.

Shore frozen herring, for bait, \$2.00 to \$2.50 per cwt.

Newfoundland frozen herring, for bait, \$2.50 to \$3.00 per cwt.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Meteor is on the Rocky Neck shears for a new mainmast.

Sch. Electric Flash is on Burnham's railways.

Sch. Marsala is fitting for Georges handling under command of Capt. Martin Christensen.

Sch. Electric Flash will be one of the early southern seiners under command of Capt. William Bissert, who did so well in her last year.

Boston.

Sch. Fannie Belle Atwood, 40,000 haddock, 20,000 cod.

Sch. Conqueror, 45,000 haddock, 15,000 cod.

Sch. Mooanam, 40,000 haddock, 5000 cod.

Sch. Marguerite, 6000 cod.

Sch. Eva Avina, 500 cod.

Sch. Georgianna, 40,000 haddock, 10,000 cod.

Sch. Elmer E. Gray, 40,000 haddock, 20,000 cod.

Sch. William A. Morse, 7000 haddock, 2500 cod, 1000 pollock.

Sch. M. Madelene, 300 haddock, 11,000 cod.

Sch. Mary Edith, 7000 haddock, 3000 cod, 1000 hake, 1500 cusk.

Sch. Hobo, 4000 cod.

Sch. Thomas J. Carroll, 8000 haddock, 1000 cod, 5000 pollock.

Sch. Squanto, 60,000 haddock, 5000 cod.

Sch. Jesse Costa, 20,000 haddock, 5000 cod, 7000 pollock.

Sch. Joseph H. Cromwell, 6000 haddock, 1500 cod, 1000 hake.

Sch. Juniata, 15,000 haddock, 2000 cod.

Sch. Eddie A. Minot, 1500 cod.

Haddock, \$1.25 to \$2.75 per cwt.; large cod, \$4 to \$4.50; market cod, \$2 to \$3; hake, \$3 to \$5.50.

Portland Arrivals.

The only fishing arrival at Portland Monday was sch. Margie Turner with 9000 pounds of fresh fish.

PORT OF GLOUCESTER.

Arrived Today.

Sch. Herman F. Kimball, Boston for Rockland.

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AGAINST LEASING CLAM FLATS.

Rockport Town Meeting Adopted Resolution Unanimously.

The Rockport town meeting held its second session last evening and completed the action upon the appropriations. The matter of extending the town water to Long Beach was referred to the water commissioners and selectmen to report at a special meeting and a vote was passed unanimously protesting against the leasing of the clam flats or shore as proposed by the fish and game commission.

The meeting was called to order at 7.30 o'clock, the attendance being fully equal to the preceding evening.

Against Leasing Clam Flats.

Moderator Dennis presented as the first business a communication from Hon. George A. Schofield of Ipswich in behalf of the committee appointed at the meeting recently held in that town to take action in reference to the proposed leasing of the flats and shores, by the state authorities, taking the control out of the hands of the local authorities, and asking that an article to be placed in the warrant, to see if the town will vote to protest against any change in the law which takes from the local authorities control over shore fisheries or which takes away the public rights by leasing the shore or flats, but which Mr. Dennis explained was not received until after the warrant had been made up.

J. Manuel Marshall, Esq., moved that the matter be postponed till this evening in order that a copy of the proposed bill might be had, and the motion was declared carried, but the vote was counted and a count showed 17 in favor and 38 against.

On motion of Charles H. Cleaves, Esq., the meeting voted 79 to none to protest against the proposed change in the law and against the leasing of any flats or shore.

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THE NEW BOSTON FISH EXCHANGE.

Dealers and Fishermen Both Pleased With Its Working.

Most Disputes Have Been Settled in Favor of Captains.

The new fish exchange at T wharf, Boston, has been in working order now for over a month, and the dealers and fishermen have been able to learn whether they are benefited by it or not. The dealers are satisfied, although some of them have suffered loss through the working of the rules, and the fishermen seem to take kindly to it also.

In the disputes that have arisen over the quantity, weight and size of the fish the committees selected to settle the disputes have acted fairly, and in most instances have decided in favor of the captains.

In one instance one of the officers of the exchange was made to pay for a lot of fish which he claimed not to have received because two of his men signed vouchers for the same cart, and as the captain had vouchers for two carts of fish the dealer was told to pay or give up his connection with the exchange.

Even the captains who objected to paying one per cent. on the sale of the fish, do not complain now, as they have found that they save much more through the rule that obliges the dealers to take the fish he signs to take and at the price he agreed.

One of the largest dealers found recently that this rule meant just what it read, and when he called his fish in his store, and refused to pay the price of large cod for what he said were market cod, the arbitrators ordered him to pay as his men should have culled their fish before leaving the vessel's side.

FISH WAS SCARCE

Incoming Fleet Also Found Lower Prices for Fares.

At Boston, since last report, 18 of the haddock fleet have arrived, nine of them from off shore, the largest trips of the lot being sch. Raymah, Capt. Felix Hogan, with 52,000 pounds and sch. Romance, Capt. William Corkum, with 50,000 pounds. The other off shores have from 35,000 pounds up to 48,000 pounds. The catches are smaller than expected and show that fish are indeed scarce, for the vessel in company some of the leaders of the fleet, commanded by men of judgment and who fish hard.

Some of the off shore vessels sold yesterday afternoon while others hung on until this morning. The market yesterday afternoon was weak and low prices prevailed, as the bottom had dropped right out of the fresh fish trade since Monday, so the dealers report, and their piled up stores bear out the truth of their statements.

So dull was it at T wharf yesterday and so little did the dealers seem to care about loading up any more that some off shore haddock sold at 60 cents per hundred weight, the lowest price of the winter.

One dealer took a shore trip of 17,000 pounds of live new haddock for \$1.35 per hundred weight and then was unable to get any other firm to take even a cart load on the card, so being obliged to take the whole trip himself. He probably did not like it at the time but is patting himself on the back this morning as the heavy northeaster has driven prices up so that when the bell rang at 7 o'clock shore haddock brought \$3.50 per hundred weight from the vessel.

There were only nine market boats in since last report and most of these were in and sold before closing time yesterday, so there was really very little fish on the market this morning, which fact, together with the northeaster, accounts for the good prices quoted. Those off the shore and off shore fellows who did not sell yesterday and held until this morning, will profit well by so doing. New haddock brought from \$2.55 to \$3.50, large cod \$4 to \$4.50; market \$2.50 and hake and pollock at \$2.50. Old haddock sold for \$1.25.

The dealers figure that the northeaster storm will keep the boats and off shore vessels from fishing today and possibly tomorrow, which means that receipts the rest of the week will be light, hence they want what fish is in today and are paying a fair price for new fish.

Three of the off shore haddock fleet arrived here yesterday afternoon with not very large fares. The crafts were schs. Effie M. Prior, Yakima and John Hays Hammond, with about 45,000 pounds each of fresh fish. The fares sold to the Gloucester Fresh Fish Co.

The captains of the vessels report fish scarce on both Brown's Bank and Georges and that the fishing is very spotty. They instance cases when a vessel will set and get fair fishing while other vessels setting right alongside would get practically nothing. The trips are nowhere near what is expected in size at his time of the year and the skippers are now looking for the cod school which is due to strike on Georges next week.

All the market boats are in today and safely tied up at wharves here, at Portland, Boston and Provincetown, or anchored at Plymouth. None went out from here yesterday and the northeaster today will hold them in until it is over, all right.

The captains of the vessels that came in at Boston yesterday morning reported a heavy, choppy sea running out in the bay, with a howling northeast wind whipping it up and making things uncomfortable for seamen.

Several of the vessels that started out from T wharf yesterday morning got only as far as President roads. The captains found the weather so bad there, and received such poor reports from the vessels coming in, that they put about and ran back to T wharf, preferring to tie up there rather than take chances in going down the bay or anchoring in the roads.

Frozen Herring Cargo at Boston.

The Lunenburg, N. S., sch. Lila B. Hirtle, one of the vessels chartered by Capt. Solomon Jacobs of this city, arrived at Boston yesterday afternoon from Connaigre Bay, N. F., with a cargo of frozen herring.

Putting Up Fish.

Capt. Eldredge, formerly of this city, who went to Newburyport and started the Consumers Fresh Fish Company, dealing in fresh fish, has recently started a new industry there in the boxing of salt fish. He is finding quite a market for the production of his concern.

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Today's Receipts.

Sch. Effie M. Prior, Georges, 40,000 lbs. fresh fish.
Sch. John Hays Hammond, Georges, 45,000 lbs. fresh fish.
Sch. Rena A. Percy, shore.
Sch. Yakima, Georges, 45,000 lbs. fresh fish.
Sch. Mary T. Fallon, shore.

Vessels Sailed.

No vessels sailed today.

Sch. Aspinet went out yesterday afternoon and schs. Ida M. Silva and Clara G. Silva went to Boston at the same time.

Today's Fish Market.

Salt Georges cod, large, \$3.50; mediums, \$3.00.
Bank halibut, 11 cts. per lb. for white and 9 cts. for gray.
Salt pollock, \$1; salt haddock, \$1; salt hake, \$1.
Splitting prices for fresh fish, Western cod, large \$1.65; medius, \$1.37-1-2; Eastern cod, large \$1.65; medius, \$1.37 1-2; cusk, \$1.60 for large, \$1 for medium and 50 cts. for snappers; haddock, 60 cts.; hake, 60 cts.; pollock, 60 cts.
Trawl bank cod, large, \$3.25; medius, \$2.75; snappers, \$1.50.
Salt cusk, large, \$2.50; mediums, \$2; snappers, \$1.
Shore frozen herring, for bait, \$2.00 to \$2.50 per cwt.
Newfoundland frozen herring, for bait, \$2.50 to \$3.00 per cwt.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Capt. Leroy Spinney is fitting sch. Athlete for salt banking.
Capt. Manuel Carlz is fitting sch. Mattie Winship for Georges handling.

Capt. John F. Vautier of sch. Monarch figured on beginning to fit out for south seining today, but the storm has knocked out the work for today and the crew will probably get to work tomorrow and the craft will sail the first of next week.

Schs. Esperanto and Arcadia are on the Rocky Neck railways.

Boston.

Br. Sch. Lila B. Hirtle, frozen herring.
Sch. Vanessa, 35,000 haddock, 14,000 cod.
Sch. Lizzie M. Stanley, 40,000 haddock, 8000 cod.
Sch. Romance, 35,000 haddock, 15,000 cod.
Sch. Raymah, 35,000 haddock, 17,000 cod.
Sch. Harmony, 19,000 haddock, 19,000 cod.
Sch. Buema, 5000 haddock, 1500 cod, 500 hake.
Sch. Robert and Arthur, 20,000 haddock, 13,000 cod.
Sch. Evelyn L. Thompson, 8000 haddock, 3500 cod, 1000 hake, 1000 cusk.
Sch. Elva L. Spurling, 1000 haddock, 10,000 cod.
Sch. M. Madeline, 700 haddock, 11,000 cod.
Sch. Belbina P. Domingoes, 15,000 haddock, 2000 cod, 500 hake.
Sch. Nellie Dixon, 35,000 haddock, 8000 cod.
Sch. Fannie E. Prescott, 25,000 haddock, 10,000 cod.
Sch. Warren M. Goodspeed, 4000 haddock, 500 cod, 400 pollock.
Sch. Ida M. Silva, 5000 haddock, 1200 cod, 500 hake, 500 pollock.
Sch. Clara G. Silva, 10,000 haddock, 2000 cod, 1000 hake.
Sch. Olga, 40,000 haddock, 5000 cod.
Haddock, \$1.25 to \$3.50 per cwt.; large cod, \$4 to \$4.50; market cod, \$2.50; hake, \$3.50; pollock, \$3.50.

Portland Arrivals.

The following fishing vessels arrived at Portland Tuesday:
Sch. Fanny Reed, 3000 pounds fresh fish.
Sch. George H. Lube, 11,000 pounds fresh fish.
Sch. Richard J. Nunan, 13,000 pounds fresh fish.
Sch. Gladys, 2000 pounds fresh fish.

BANNER HADDOCK TRIP OF WINTER.

Sch. Benjamin A. Smith Brings 120,000 Pounds From LeHave bank.

Sch. Paragon Has 30,000 Pounds of Halibut From Quero Bank.

The banner haddock trip of the winter was that brought to this port yesterday afternoon by the reliable Capt. James D. Goodwin in the big auxiliary sch. Benjamin A. Smith. Big fares are a habit with Capt. Goodwin and when he does not have one, the knowing ones say, "Well, they must be some scarce," or "Jim must have struck hard old weather all right this time out."

About 120,000 pounds of fresh fish, mostly haddock, those big kind from Little LeHave bank, is the bulk of her fare this time, with nearly 2500 weight of halibut to help swell the big stock, which will accrue from the 11 days trip.

This is Capt. Goodwin's last trip in the big knockabout and he has certainly wound up his season in her in a very impressive manner. He will now fit sch. Ella M. Goodwin, in which he has been for several years, and of which he is part owner, for a salt bank cod trawling trip.

Capt. Goodwin reports good fishing on Little LeHave, getting some big sets, and with the exception of one or two days, did not hit up any very bad weather.

The fare sold to the Gloucester Fresh Fish Co., and is being taken out today.

This morning two other good trips arrived here, sch. Paragon, Capt. Capt. William Hermon, from the southeast part of Quero, with 30,000 pounds of halibut, and a few salt fish, and sch. Teazer, Capt. Peter Dunskey, from Brown's bank, with 15,000 pounds of halibut, 10,000 pounds of fresh fish, and a few salt cod.

Sch. Paragon has been out about a month and will make a nice stock, as prices are well up. This is the second fine halibut fare that Capt. Hermon has made this season, thus giving him a fine start for another big year's work.

Capt. Dunskey of sch. Teazer reports fishing on Brown's bank. He has been out only three weeks, and did not strike any very bad weather, and has a good trip for the short time gone. He saw no other vessels of the fishing fleet.

March 5.

THE ANTI-TORCHING BILL ENGROSSED.

Legislature Favorably Considered It Despite Objections Made.

The bill to prevent herring torching in the waters about Lynn harbor was passed to be engrossed by the general court yesterday.

Representative Willets of Fall River explained the necessity of the bill to prohibit torching for herring in the waters of Lynn harbor, because the herring fishermen have created a nuisance by dumping their dead fish in the waters, to the danger of the public health. The bill was favored by McCann of Lynn and Quinn of Swampscott.

Representative Adams of Marblehead said Marblehead desires this legislation as much as any other place, and as there are similar bills still pending before the committee on fisheries and game, he moved that the bill be drawn to cover all places.

Representative Tolman of this city, opposed the bill as a hardship upon Gloucester fishermen. The motion to recommit was lost and the bill passed to be engrossed on voice vote.